

REMARKS

On March 25, 2010, the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences affirmed the rejections of claims 1-4, 6 and 13-22 (including independent claims 1, 11, and 21), but reversed the rejections of claims 8, 9, 15, 16 and 24.

On June 21, 2010, an Office Action was mailed indicating that the independent claims have been cancelled by the Examiner and that the dependent claims should be rewritten in independent form in reply to the Office Action to avoid abandonment of the application.

Accordingly, via this amendment, claims 8, 15 and 24 have been rewritten in independent form. Claims 9 and 16 respectively depend from claims 8 and 15, which have been rewritten in independent form as noted above. Thus, the application should now be in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

If this response is not considered timely filed and if a request for an extension of time is available, but absent, Applicant hereby requests any necessary extension of time. If there is a fee occasioned by this response, including an extension fee, the Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith to our Deposit Account No. 23/2825, under Docket No. N0484.70761US00.

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Respectfully submitted,

By: Melissa Beede
Melissa A. Beede
Registration No.: 54,986
WOLF, GREENFIELD & SACKS, P.C.
600 Atlantic Avenue
Boston, Massachusetts 02210-2206
617.646.8000